

HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL 115

47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2005

AN ACT

RELATING TO INDIAN EDUCATION; PROVIDING FOR AN ELECTIVE IN
NATIVE AMERICAN LANGUAGE; REQUIRING THE PUBLIC EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE FOR A NATIVE AMERICAN LANGUAGE
ENDORSEMENT.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 22-13-1.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1986,
Chapter 33, Section 5, as amended) is amended to read:

"22-13-1.1. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.--

A. At the end of grades eight through eleven, each
student shall prepare an interim next-step plan that sets forth
the coursework for the grades remaining until high school
graduation. Each year's plan shall explain any differences
from previous interim next-step plans, shall be filed with the
principal of the student's high school and shall be signed by

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underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 the student, the student's parent [~~or guardian~~] and the
2 student's guidance counselor or other school official charged
3 with coursework planning for the student.

4 B. Each student must complete a final next-step
5 plan during the senior year and prior to graduation. The plan
6 shall be filed with the principal of the student's high school
7 and shall be signed by the student, the student's parent [~~or~~
8 ~~guardian~~] and the student's guidance counselor or other school
9 official charged with coursework planning for the student.

10 C. An individualized education program that meets
11 the requirements of Subsections A and B of this section and
12 that meets all applicable transition and procedural
13 requirements of the federal Individuals with Disabilities
14 Education Act for a student with a disability shall satisfy the
15 next-step plan requirements of this section for that student.

16 D. A local school board shall ensure that each high
17 school student has the opportunity to develop a next-step plan
18 and is reasonably informed about:

- 19 (1) curricular and course options;
20 (2) opportunities available that lead to
21 different post-high-school options; and
22 (3) alternative opportunities available if the
23 student does not finish a planned curriculum.

24 E. The secretary [~~of public education~~] shall:

- 25 (1) establish specific accountability

1 standards for administrators, counselors, teachers and school
2 district staff to ensure that every student has the opportunity
3 to develop a next-step plan;

4 (2) promulgate rules for accredited private
5 schools in order to ensure substantial compliance with the
6 provisions of this section;

7 (3) monitor compliance with the requirements
8 of this section; and

9 (4) compile such information as is necessary
10 to evaluate the success of next-step plans and report annually,
11 by December 15, to the legislative education study committee
12 and the governor.

13 F. Successful completion of a minimum of twenty-
14 three units aligned to the state academic content and
15 performance standards shall be required for graduation. These
16 units shall be as follows:

17 (1) four units in English, with major emphasis
18 on grammar and literature;

19 (2) three units in mathematics, at least one
20 of which is equivalent to the algebra 1 level or higher;

21 (3) two units in science, one of which shall
22 have a laboratory component; provided, however, that with
23 students entering the ninth grade beginning in the 2005-2006
24 school year, three units in science shall be required, one of
25 which shall have a laboratory component;

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1 (4) three units in social science, which shall
2 include United States history and geography, world history and
3 geography and government and economics;

4 (5) one unit in physical education or other
5 physical activity;

6 (6) one unit in communication skills or
7 business education, with a major emphasis on writing and
8 speaking and that may include a language other than English;
9 and

10 (7) nine elective units and eight elective
11 units for students entering the ninth grade in the 2005-2006
12 school year that meet [~~state board~~] department content and
13 performance standards. Student service learning shall be
14 offered as an elective. One or more courses in Native American
15 languages shall be offered as electives in those school
16 districts that employ licensed school employees with
17 endorsements for Native American language or persons who hold
18 Native American language and culture certificates.

19 G. The department shall establish a procedure for
20 students to be awarded credit through completion of specified
21 career technical education courses for certain graduation
22 requirements.

23 H. Final examinations shall be administered to all
24 students in all classes offered for credit.

25 I. A student shall not receive a high school

1 diploma who has not passed a state graduation examination in
2 the subject areas of reading, English, [~~math~~] mathematics,
3 writing, science and social science. The state graduation
4 examination on social science shall include a section on the
5 constitution of the United States and the constitution of New
6 Mexico. If a student exits from the school system at the end
7 of grade twelve without having passed a state graduation
8 examination, [~~he~~] the student shall receive an appropriate
9 state certificate indicating the number of credits earned and
10 the grade completed. If within five years after a student
11 exits from the school system [~~he~~] the student takes and passes
12 the state graduation examination, [~~he~~] the student may receive
13 a high school diploma.

14 J. As used in this section:

15 (1) "final next-step plan" means a next-step
16 plan that shows that the student has committed or intends to
17 commit in the near future to a four-year college or university,
18 a two-year college, a trade or vocational program, an
19 internship or apprenticeship, military service or a job;

20 (2) "interim next-step plan" means an annual
21 next-step plan in which the student specifies post-high-school
22 goals and sets forth the coursework that will allow the student
23 to achieve those goals; and

24 (3) "next-step plan" means an annual personal
25 written plan of studies developed by a student in a public

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1 school or other state-supported school or institution in
2 consultation with the student's parent [~~or guardian~~] and school
3 counselor or other school official charged with coursework
4 planning for the student.

5 K. The secretary [~~of public education~~] may
6 establish a policy to provide for administrative
7 interpretations to clarify curricular and testing provisions of
8 the Public School Code."

9 Section 2. TEMPORARY PROVISION--NATIVE AMERICAN LANGUAGE
10 ENDORSEMENT.--The public education department shall promulgate
11 rules to provide for a teaching license endorsement in Native
12 American language. The rule shall be effective July 1, 2006.
13 The department shall report to the legislative education study
14 committee by October 2005 on the projected number of teachers
15 who will qualify for endorsement and the cost of salaries and
16 other expenses for the elective courses.